Program Update

Program: Phytophthora ramorum

As of this past Friday, March 4, the APHIS *P. ramorum* website has a new address:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/ispm/pramorum/

Date:

March 14, 2005

The change reflects our policy of not referring to the pest by the name Sudden Oak Death, which does not fully or accurately capture the scope of plants affected or the diseases caused by the pathogen. And, in response to concerns raised by the sod/turf grass industry. Visitors using the old address will get a message telling them of the new address. If their browser permits it, they will be automatically redirected to the new site or they can manually click on a provided link.

A report in last week's original Program Update that PPQ had confirmed that a *Photinia* x fraseri shipped from the large Los Angeles County nursery recently found positive for *P. ramorum* and collected from a garden center in Arizona is positive for *P. ramorum* is INCORRECT. To date, no photinia from the Los Angeles nursery has been found positive. A corrected version of the March 7th update has been posted to the APHIS P. ramorum web site.